

# Clanwrtyd Wells Urban Sanitary Authority.

## ANNUAL REPORT of Medical Officer of Health, FOR THE YEAR 1925.



LLANWRTYD WELLS,

15th June, 1926.

To the Llanwrtyd Wells Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg herewith to submit my Annual Report for the year 1925.

### 1.—NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (acres)	...	..	...	...	1673
Population (estimated 1925)	...	...	...	...	759
Number of inhabited houses (1925)	....	...	...	...	192
Number of families or separate occupiers	...	...	...	...	200
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	£4627 5s. 6d.
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£16 0s. 0d.

The Town is situated on both sides of the River Irfon, just after it leaves the deep Abergwessyn Valley, and where the river is crossed by the main road running from Llandovery to Builth Wells. This Town is well protected by hills in every direction, excepting the East.

The soil of the district is shallow, and the gradient of the valley considerable, so that although the rainfall is fairly heavy (61.75 inches in 1925), both the air and the ground dry rapidly.

Absence of limestone in the valley results in the water being very soft. Deep medicinal Springs abound in the area, and include a particularly fine strong Sulphur Water. These Springs, the natural beauty of the district, the sheltered situation, and the invigorating air have made Llanwrtyd Wells a noted place—especially in Wales—as a Health Resort, and the inhabitants are largely occupied in providing for the requirements of the numerous visitors. There are also two small woollen factories on the outskirts, which, however, employ very few hands.

## 2. VITAL STATISTICS.

### Births.

				Total.	Males.	Females.
(1)	Legitimate	...	...	13	3	10
(2)	Illegitimate	...	...	nil	nil	nil

<b>Deaths</b>	...	...	...	...	7	4	3
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The number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth nil

Deaths of infants under the age of one year ... .. nil

Deaths from Measles, Whooping Cough and Diarrhœa (under two years of age) nil

**Birth Rate**—In 1925 there were 13 births (against 12 in 1924) being at the rate of 17.12 per thousand of population, compared with a birth rate of 18.3 for England and Wales.

**Death Rate.**—In 1925 there were 7 deaths (against 9 in 1924) being at the rate of 9.22 per thousand of population, compared with a death rate of 12.2 for England and Wales. There was no infantile mortality, and the average age at death for the year was 70.3 years.

**The Causes of Death**—were as follows :—

Cancer 2; Arterio Sclerosis 1; Ulcer of Stomach 1; other defined causes 3.

## 3.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

The following notifications were recorded :—

Diphtheria 1; Pneumonia 4; Tuberculosis 2; of the Tuberculosis cases, both were Pulmonary, one a male of 21, and the other a female visitor aged 19.

## 4.—CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

Whooping Cough was prevalent during the latter half of the year, and necessitated the closure of the Council School from August 31st to September 7th.

## 5.—HOSPITAL AND NURSING ARRANGEMENTS.

The Llanwrtyd Wells Nursing Association maintains a Certificated Midwife as District Nurse, who also visits in the out-lying country. For these journeys a Motor Tricycle (Harper Runabout) is provided.

A child welfare Centre is established, and a clinic is held once a month.

There is no Medical or Surgical Hospital in the district, and there is no Infectious Disease Hospital available.

## 6.—LABORATORY WORK.

The Council has agreed to defray the cost of laboratory examinations of swabs in suspected cases of Diphtheria, and for laboratory reports on specimens from animals slaughtered, if disease is suspected.

Diphtheria antitoxin is provided.

## 7.—PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

The Staff consists of a Medical Officer of Health and a Sanitary Inspector, both part time.

## 8.—LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

There are no Local Acts or special Local Orders. The Byelaws relating to Public Health are those generally in force in Urban areas, and were allowed on August 7th and 9th, 1909, by the Local Government Board.

No proceedings have been necessary under the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901. The conditions at the two small Woollen Factories are satisfactory from a health point of view, and no case of vocational disease has arisen among the people employed in these factories.

## 9. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

**Water.**—The supply is from water works, and is constant. The collecting ground is free from pollution, and has no houses or cultivated land above the intake. Practically all houses are supplied direct. The water main from the reservoir is too small (3 inch) to supply the full demand during the Summer season, and a larger main is advised.

**River Pollution.**—The untreated sewage of the town mostly flows directly into the River Irfon, and causes it in times of drought to be heavily polluted and, at times, offensive.

**Sewage Disposal.**—Where not dealt with by cesspools or soakaways, the sewage flows untreated into the River Irfon.

**Closet Accommodation.**—With very few exceptions, these are all water closets.

**Scavenging.**—Moveable ashbins. Scavenger takes refuse away twice a week in Winter, and three times a week during Summer.

**Housing.**—General housing conditions are good with very few exceptions.

**Milk Supply.**—Sufficient, and of fair quality. No graded milk sold in the district.

**Slaughter Houses.**—Two private slaughter houses inspected by the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector. No Meat Inspector has yet been appointed.

**Bakehouses.**—Premises suitable and well kept, and inspected by the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector.

## 10.—HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a)	Total	...	...	...	3
(b)	With state assistance	...	...	...	1



**A.—Unfit Dwelling-houses.**

1. Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts	...	...	...	61
2. Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Inspection of District Regulations in 1910	...			Nil
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state dangerous or injurious to health, as to be unfit for human habitation	...			Nil
4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	14

**B.—Remedy of defects without service of formal Notices.**

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	...			12
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**C.—Action under Statutory Powers.**

1. Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1919	...	...	...	...	Nli
2. Proceedings under Public Healths Acts :					
(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...				7
(b) Number of houses in which defects were remedied :—					
1. By Owners	...	...	...	...	7
2. By Local Authority in default of Owners	...				Nil

<b>D.—Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing Town Planning Act, 1919</b>	...	...	...	...	Nil
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I am,

Yours faithfully,

CHARLES MARTIN, M.B. & C.M.,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

# Llanwrtyd Wells Urban Sanitary Authority.



## Report of Medical Officer of Health.

LLANWRTYD WELLS,

Sept. 30th, 1926.

*The following details have been asked for by the Ministry of Health, and are supplied as a Supplementary Report to the Annual Report for 1925.*

1. There are no arrangements in force for marking and inspecting Meat under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924.
2. There are no arrangements in force for the conduct of Chemical Work.
3. The general Sanitary condition of the Elementary School is satisfactory, with the exception that three of the flush closet seats are defective, the wooden facings are missing, causing the seats to become soiled by the flush.

The Water Supply of the School is the same as that of the Town, and is good.

4. No primary Vaccinations or Re-vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health in that capacity.
5. There are two private Slaughter Houses in the area, but neither of these is licensed or registered.
6. The Sanitary Inspector has made numerous Inspections, but no more detailed statement can be made other than that contained in the Annual Report.

CHARLES MARTIN, M.B. & C.M.,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

